

d.) Remarks

In the present amendment claims 97, 105, and 106 have been amended to overcome the rejection under §112. In each independent claim, the preamble has been amended to recite a system for providing input to a touch screen, and the first clause now states a plurality of devices for interacting with the touch screen, including a base member and means for securing it to the touch screen. Thus the problem with the language “a device...including...a plurality of devices...” has been corrected, and the rejection has been obviated. There being no rejection based on the prior art, it is therefore presumed that claims 97, 105, and 106 should now be allowed. Their dependent claims 48-52 and 55-56 have been amended to state that they refer to the system of the respective independent claim, and should also be allowed.

In response to the rejection of claims 96 and 107 as being anticipated by the Selig patent, applicant has canceled claim 107. Regarding claim 96, this rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 96 clearly recites that the means for securing the base member to the touch screen includes an adhesive layer formed on the bottom surface of the base member, and that the adhesive layer is preferentially more adherent to the base member than to the surface of the touch screen. There is no such teaching of this feature in Selig, and no support for a rejection under §102, or even §103.

Selig provides a keypad that has movable keys for inputting alphanumeric data into a touch screen. The keypad 14 is supported in a retainer frame 30 that is removably secured to the bezel that surrounds the touch screen. This mounting

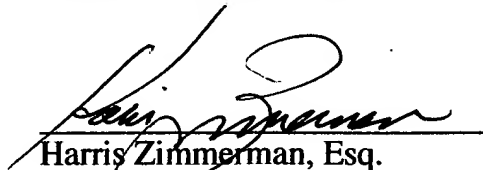
arrangement is entirely different from the claimed invention, and these differences are significant. For example, the Selig keypad requires that the keypad have a retainer frame, and that the screen has a bezel, and that the retainer frame interacts with the bezel to mount the keypad in its operating position proximate to the screen. In contrast, the claimed invention eliminates the need for a retainer frame, eliminate the need for a bezel surrounding the screen, and eliminates the need for the retainer frame to cooperatively engage the bezel. The claimed invention can be adhered to any touch screen without regard to its bezel design, etc., and is thus more widely applicable than the arrangement of the Selig reference. Moreover, the Selig retainer/bezel assembly impliedly relies on a corner mounting arrangement, since that would engage two sides of the keypad for support. This factor renders the Selig assembly not suitable for mounting in the middle of the screen, where side support is unavailable. Thus Selig is further limited in its useful mounting range, a limitation that the claimed invention overcomes. Thus it is asserted that the Selig reference fails to support a rejection under §102 or §103, and claim 96 should be allowed.

Claims 98, 100, 101, and 112 all stand rejected under §102 over Gibbons. Claims 98 and 112 have been canceled. Claims 100 and 101 relate to a touch screen input device in which the power supply for the touch provoking means is RF power transmitted to the touch provoking means and used as operating power. This claimed feature is not taught in Gibbons, and has no counterpart. In Gibbons, a touch input stylus is provided with a battery, and a charging station secured to the touch screen assembly includes an electrical docking arrangement that delivers

recharging current to the battery of the stylus. This power supply arrangement is completely distinct from the claimed invention. Gibbons does not teach nor suggest transmitting operating power to the input device via an RF wireless link. The reference citation (col. 5, lines 37-44) does NOT refer to transmission of operating power; rather, it describes the three RF frequencies emitted by the distal end 106 of the stylus so that it may be tracked across the touch screen.

Claims 100 and 101 have been amended to particularly point out that the operating power for driving the touch provoking means is RF power (or IR power, respectively) transmitted wirelessly to the device. There being no such teaching in the prior art, it is asserted that claims 100 and 101 are now allowable over the art. All claims now presented have been indicated as allowed or allowable, or amended to be allowable, and this application is now in condition for issuance. Action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



Harris Zimmerman, Esq.
Registration No. 16, 437
Attorney for Applicant
Law Offices of Harris Zimmerman
1330 Broadway, Suite 710
Oakland, California 94612
(510) 465-0828
Harris@zimpatent.com

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Jennifer L. Hyl

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